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STATEMENT BY VICTORIA NULAND, SPOKESPERSON

Adoption of Roadmap for Ending the Transition in Somalia

The United States welcomes the adoption by key Somali leaders of the Roadmap for Ending the Transition in Somalia. We thank the United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary General for Somalia, Augustine Mahiga, for facilitating this process. The Transitional Federal Government, the regional Administrations of Puntland and Galmuduug, and the Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama'a movement completed an agreement on September 6 that addresses critical transitional requirements. We will closely monitor progress and hold Somali officials accountable for meeting these benchmarks and will continue our support for efforts to achieve the goals of the Roadmap and bring stability to Somalia.

The United States urges the Transitional Federal Government to capitalize on the improving security environment to make significant progress in the political realm. The terrible suffering of the Somali people, particularly during the current famine, underscores that the signatories to the Roadmap must make rapid progress toward a representative and effective government that can meet the basic needs of all Somalis.

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